

County Councilman David Marks Fifth District Newsletter

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MESSAGE FROM COUNCILMAN MARKS: UNDERSTANDING THE 2020 REZONING PROCESS

One of the most important responsibilities of the Baltimore County Council is to help implement the Comprehensive Zoning Map Process (CZMP). Every four years, any individual or organization can recommend a zoning change to any property in Baltimore County. Zoning determines how land is used and developed—for residential or commercial growth, for instance, or for agriculture and less intense uses.

The 2020 CZMP will start with the public pre-filing period that begins on August 19, 2019. The 2020 CZMP will conclude next summer with the adoption of a log of issues for each of the seven County Council districts. For more information, consult the Department of Planning at (410) 887-3480 or <https://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/planning/czmp/index.html>.

During the last two rezoning cycles, I targeted redevelopment toward our older commercial areas.



[The County Council downzoned a historic amount of land in the Fifth District to protect open space and limit development in overcrowded school districts.](#) I will cosponsor with our Planning Board member Paul Hartman two public meetings about the process—on Monday, August 5th at 7:30 p.m. at Pickersgill retirement community in Towson and on Thursday, August 8th at 7:30 p.m. at the Perry Hall library. Please RSVP to council5@baltimorecountymd.gov.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT SET FOR AUGUST 6

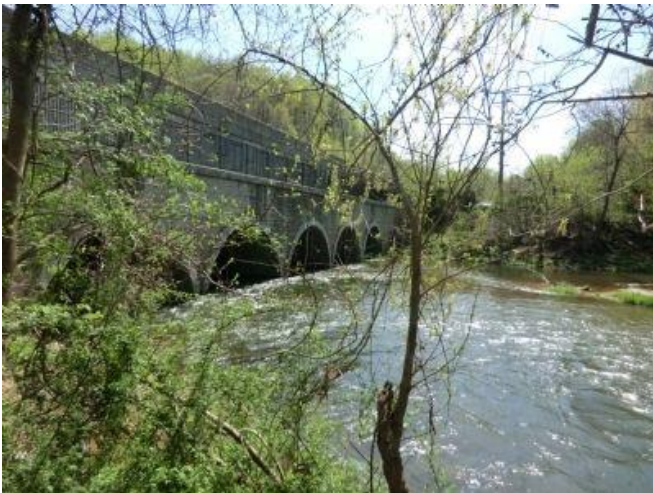
Communities throughout Baltimore County participate in National Night Out, which raises awareness about how residents can work with their law enforcement officials. In the Fifth District, neighborhoods as diverse as Perring Park, Ridgeleigh, and Seven Courts will participate this year. For more information, visit the Baltimore County Police Department's Web Site at <https://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/News/PoliceNews/iWatch>. National Night Out is on Tuesday, August 6.



PARKING LIMITED DURING GUNPOWDER STATE PARK RENOVATIONS

In June, the Maryland Department of Transportation began a \$3.6 million project to rehabilitate the Belair Road bridge over Gunpowder Falls State Park.

Due to safety concerns, parking is now prohibited along both sides of Belair Road in the vicinity of Gunpowder Falls State Park. The state will post “no parking” signs along Belair Road between south of Miller Roads and Mount Vista Roads. Baltimore County police will enforce the restrictions. Additionally, the park entrance for vehicles along northbound Belair Road will be closed for the remainder of construction work, scheduled to be completed in the fall 2020.



RANSOMWARE ATTACK IMPACTED SOME COUNTY SEWER CHARGES

Baltimore City and County are sending letters to approximately 14,000 county residents regarding the sewer charges that will appear on their 2019 property tax bills. Water consumption data from Baltimore City is one of the factors that the county uses to compute the Metro charges included in tax bills, but the recent ransomware attack in the city has affected computer systems that the county relies upon to obtain

information needed to validate the Metropolitan District sewer charge. Because of the ransomware attack, the County has been unable to validate a small percentage of accounts.

Residents whose accounts are affected will receive a letter. Those residents are encouraged to review their 2018 water bills and contact the [Baltimore County Metropolitan District Financing and Petitions office](#) with questions. That office may be reached at (410) 887-2423.

FIRST RESPONDERS DAY SET FOR AUGUST 3RD

The Fifth Annual First Responders Day will be held at Historic Jerusalem Mill Village on Saturday, August 3rd from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. This is a family-friendly event with demonstrations, displays, a K9 unit, and activities for the young and old.

PUBLIC ART COMING TO DOWNTOWN TOWSON

The mural below is scheduled to be painted next to Nacho Mama's on Pennsylvania Avenue in Downtown Towson in late July. The painting is privately-financed with not a penny of government support. If you would like to contribute a few dollars to finish the contributions, you can donate here:

<https://www.towsonchamber.com/towson-creative-partnership/>

